# White Water Canal collection S1420

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts 140 North Senate Avenue Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204 317-232-3671

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## **Summary Information**

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**Repository** Rare Books and Manuscripts

Creator Williams, Mary Thorpe, 1884-1982

Title White Water Canal collection

**Date** 1823-1946

**Extent** 0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder

**Language** English

Text [Folder] S1420

#### **Preferred Citation**

White Water Canal collection, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

### **Biographical Note**

Harry Otto Garman (1880-1952) attended Purdue University, married Ethel, and was director of the Canal Association. Mary mentions him on page six of her article.

#### **Biographical Note**

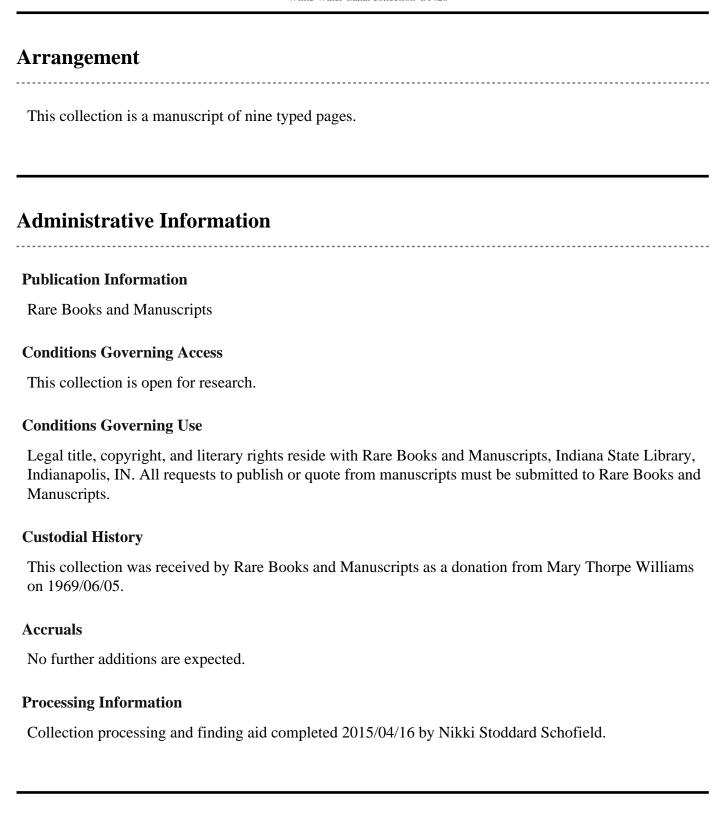
Mary Thorpe Williams, who wrote this article, was born November 18, 1884, the daughter of Christian H. and Sophia Thorpe. She married Charles Blaine Williams (born about 1883) and had one child, Marjory. She wrote this article for a program of the Daughters of the American Revolution on March 7, 1946. Mary died on September 20, 1982 at Greensburg, Indiana, and is buried in the Metamore Cemetery, Metamora, Indiana.

#### **Scope and Contents**

This is a nine-page, typed manuscript prepared for a Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) program on March 7, 1945, about the White Water Canal. The author, Mary Thorpe Williams, wrote: "This water way is now the longest stretch of its kind in the state and along this stretch will be found all the elements that went into early canal construction. In writing this little sketch my thoughts revert to the scenes of my childgood, for it was along the banks of this canal, I was born, reared, married and expect to be buried. When as a child, along with other children of the village, I swam and fished in its waters in summer, skated on its smooth icy surface in winter, building bonfires on its banks to thaw out our frozen toes and to roast potatoes in the ashes..." (pages 6-7)

Mrs. Williams states: "As early as 1823 meetings were held at Brookville with delegates from all the Whitewater counties, to urge the building of the Canal and by 1834 the Indiana Legislature responded, authorizing a survey." (Page 2) On page 5, she gives statistics taken from the company books for January 1851 which "indicates that in its hay day, transportation on the Canal did flourish."

On page 6, Mary Williams told about Harry Otto Garman, Indianapolis engineer, who was director of the canal association. She wrote: "Water rights of the canal are now owned by the paper mill at Brookville and it has been agreed to tranfer them to the state without cost."



**Controlled Access Headings** 

#### Geographic Name(s)

• Whitewater Canal (Ind. and Ohio)

#### Personal Name(s)

• Garman, Harry Otto, 1880-1952

#### Subject(s)

• Canal construction--Brookville (Ind.)